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20 to 26 August 1949

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a. While on a trip from BUDAPEST to the Danube-Tisza area.

- (1) Barracks on Ezredes Street, BUDAPEST:

About 150 Soviet trucks were parked in front of the barracks. Soviet troops were quartered in the barracks, which were formerly a Hungarian motor pool.

- (2) Babad Woods (Q 48/H 69) south of OCSA (Q 48/H 60):

Sixty railroad carloads of antiaircraft ammunition had been stored in the woods by Soviet troops (from information available to the Hungarian Ministry of National Defense).

- (3) Area of CEGLED (Q 48/0 08):

Soviet antiaircraft guns were located in the corn fields in the CEGLED area and along the CEGLED-SZEGED (Y 7/T 17) railroad line. Soviet antiaircraft artillery troops were repeatedly observed cutting wood. The troops stockpiled firewood for the winter according to local residents.

- (4) Barracks of KECSEKEMET (Y 6/N 95): **

All barracks were occupied to capacity by Soviet troops. The Cavalry Barracks were the last to be occupied.

- (5) SZEGED:

(a) The town quarter of UJSZEGED (Y 7/T 27), east of the Tisza River, had been partly evacuated and was only accessible to bearers of special permits.

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(b) Local residents reported that the discipline of the Soviet troops was excellent.

(6) Miscellaneous:

(a) Soviet telephone-construction crews were seen laying telephone lines between BUDAPEST and SZEGED.

The Soviets requisitioned all inhabitable public buildings, including former PW camps, in the OCSA-KECKELT area, according to local residents.

(b) At least 60 percent of all motor vehicles seen between BUDAPEST and SZEGED were Soviet military vehicles. ***

(7)(a) LOEKOESHÁZA (R 16/U 08) - KETEGYHÁZA (R 16/P 00) - MEZŐHEGYES (Y 7/T 78) - MAKÓ (Y 7/T 47) - SZEGED railroad line:

Railroad personnel stated that the entire passenger and freight traffic on the railroad line had been suspended from 20 to 26 August 1949. Soviet military trains (of 25 to 30 cars each), coming from Rumania, ran on the railroad line every night during that period, at about 90 minutes intervals. ****

(b) [] 12 trains of almost identical composition: each train comprised some closed boxcars and flatcars carrying about two¹/₃₄ or similar tanks, three lighter tanks, about 10 antitank guns, some mortars and about 15 trucks. The tanks were very dirty. The troops observed with the weapons were 18 to 20 years of age. Hungarian railroadmen learned from Rumanian railroadmen that large-scale inductions were made in Rumania. *****

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b. While on a trip to southwestern Hungary, []

(1) MARCALI (Y 4/A 68): The town was off limits. It had been occupied by Soviet troops about two days before.

(2) PECS (Y 5/B 22):

(a) The Hungarian "Signal Bn" Barracks on Szigetis Street was occupied by Soviet troops.

(b) The Hungarian troops had to move to the old Signal Communication Barracks, BUDAPEST (known as "Buda Del" (i.e. Buda-South) internment camp).

(3) Comitate of SOMOGY: [] that Hungarian and Soviet troops and members of the Hungarian partisan association (totaling at least 1,200) received partisan training in the Croatian villages in the southern part of the Comitate. *****

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(4) Miscellaneous: Soviet signboards were observed along the roads in the areas of BUDAÖRS (Q 47/H 42), KAPOSVAR (Y 4/A 96) and PECS. Hungarian border guard troops were withdrawn from the border sector of DARANY (Y 4/A 71) - REVFAIR (Y 4/F 99).

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c. The Hungarian Ministry of National Defense allotted building material, stored at HATVAN (Q 48/J 03), to a Soviet engineer unit in MISKOLC (R 49/J 87). The material was shipped to JOBBAGYI (Q 48/J 05) and was to be used for the construction of unknown installations. *****

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2. a. Railroadmen who escorted trains going from COP (R 49/E 90) to Hungary reported that a train of 20 railroad cars with sick or injured Soviet soldiers (lying in 8 cars, and about 300 Soviet sick sitting in 12 cars) crossed the border into the Soviet Union. A train carrying 2,000 to 2,500 young Soviet troops arrived in Hungary during the second half of August, up to early September 1949.

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b. Soviet infantry troops were detrained in MONOR (Q 48/H 50). They left MONOR marching in the direction of SZEGED and returned after five days. Marching Soviet units were also observed by local residents.

Comment: Soviet infantry troops were located chiefly in the area between the Danube and Tisza Rivers. Troop units equipped with heavy weapons were moved to southwestern Hungary.

Comment:

a. General

(1) Trains from the Soviet Union passed through the border railroad station of ZAHONY and proceeded to the MOHACS-BACA-SZEGED area at an increased rate between mid-June and mid-August 1949 (last date of information).

(2) Troops from southern Rumania moved by road and rail through the Banat to the area of the Hungarian-Yugoslav-Rumanian border after mid-August 1949.

b. Area of the Danube-Tisza Rivers

(1) [] reported in late August 1949 that Soviet troops were located in the GEGLED-KECKENET-SZEGED area.

(2) [] reported on Soviet troop trains running along the SZEGED-BUDAPEST railroad line. Such movements are, however, considered possible since Soviet troops with tanks were seen proceeding in the same direction in mid-August 1949.

(3) The statement that the passenger and freight traffic on

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the SZEGED-LOERKECHAZA (Hungarian-Rumanian border station) was temporarily suspended is given credence in view of the alleged Soviet troop movements from Rumania to southern Hungary. Trains passing over the railroad line at intervals of about 90 minutes may have carried mechanized troops.

***** (4) Inductions in Rumania, particularly of reserve officers, were made in the summer of 1949. It cannot be stated whether the inductions surpassed the level of the usual reservist training.

c. Southwestern Hungary

***** (1) As information on the area south of Lake Balaton as far as the Hungarian-Yugoslav border is available only up to mid-June 1949, the information contained above cannot be rated. No Soviet troops were observed in the mentioned area up to mid-June 1949. It is, however, considered possible that the area south of Lake Balaton was also occupied by Soviet troops in August 1949 (either component units of the 17th Gds Mecz Div or troops from the Soviet Union?), in view of the alleged concentration of Soviet troops in southeastern Hungary.

***** (2) No other sources have yet reported that Hungarian and Soviet troops received partisan training in the Comitate of SOMOGY. It is, however, considered probable that such measures have been taken since the employment of partisan units would be of great value in case of a possible armed conflict between the countries of the Eastern-Bloc and TITO-Yugoslavia.

***** d. Area East of BUDAPEST

It was reported for the first time that Soviet troops were located in the HATVAN-NISKOLC area. Only Hungarian troops are known to be stationed in this area, according to information covering the time up to mid-June 1949 (last date of information).

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